

PARTY LEADERS FIGHT PRIMARY

Record Shows That They Try to Discredit and Destroy It in Virginia.

TAX FEATURE HARD ON SOME

High-Salaried Men in State House Escape Without Paying Assessments.

BY C. A. BOYCE.

If the present State Democratic primary plan shall be able to withstand the violent attacks made upon it at almost every meeting of the State Democratic Committee, it will be clearly demonstrated that this reform is still in the hands of the rank and file of the party, though the question of the ultimate fate of the principle is yet a doubtful one.

The casual observer of political conditions in Virginia has only to go back a few years to find reasons why the primary system is so unpopular. At the nomination of State officers, then, the old convention method, and yet the people who inaugurated the principle of primary elections in the State find that for one reason or another, the spirit of their contention has been flagrantly violated in the making of plans.

It has been frequently pointed out in this paper that after Montague and Jones and John C. Parker and others had won their seat for the primary in Virginia, the making of the details of the plan fell into the hands of men who were opposed to the principle, and who proceeded to "pass up" to the people a "loaded scheme," which it left as it is, a great, unwelcome, unpopular feature and a day. This contention has been bitterly denied by men who were then and who are now members of the State Committee. But the facts speak for themselves. When the State Committee met last week, the only sentiment which provoked applause was that which attacked the primary.

A Bitter Opponent.

Judge R. T. W. Duke, of Charlottesville, was the champion of the committee to report the assessments to be placed upon the various candidates. He had attacked the system at the Roanoke convention in the summer of 1908, and in a subsequent meeting of the State Central Committee during the fall of that year, Judge Duke said at Roanoke that the system was undemocratic, and that it put a poor man beyond a reasonable possibility of seeking office at the hands of his fellow-citizens. When the committee met later he reiterated these views, declaring that he favored conventions under all conditions, so that every man could have a fair deal.

When made chairman of the assessment committee at the meeting recently held he went even further. He took occasion to observe that the primary system as operated in Virginia had created an office-holding trust, which was against the spirit and genius of the American idea of government. He declared that he was in favor of conventions under all conditions, so that every man could have a fair chance in the race of politics. Judge Duke is regarded as one of the ablest machine leaders in the State.

Same End as Different Roads.

It is a remarkable coincidence that this year convention for a fair deal was made by Montague, Jones, Parker and others, when they demanded and finally secured the adoption of the primary principle. By so doing they heretofore pointed out, those who proceeded to make the plan obnoxious, and if the people do not rally to its rescue as they did prior to the last two State conventions, it will be obliterated in 1912, the party thereby being forced to return to the old convention system.

But Judge Duke was not the only machine member of the State Committee who indicated the purpose of the "powers" that were to undo the primary system in Virginia. Colonel George S. Shackelford, Orange, is a brilliant man, and one who is high up in the confidence of the dominant faction of the Democratic party in the State. Colonel J. E. of Suffolk, offered what many strong primary advocates would approve as a happy solution of the primary problem in Virginia. It was to hold a delegated convention to nominate the candidates for State officers, and to elect delegates to the convention to be held throughout the State on the same day and under similar conditions.

Called It a Makeshift.

It was Colonel Shackelford, a strong mouthpiece of the move, who sought to push the whole matter by, on the ground that the party was now working under a miserable makeshift, but that the committee did not have time to undertake to improve upon it.

Mr. Whitehead of Albemarle, tried in vain to secure some reasonable adjustment of the fees between candidates, who have no opposition and those who are in warm contests for office. But Judge Duke and others who announced at the beginning that they were opposed to all primaries under all conditions, fought this contention down, sarcastically replying that if this or that man who had no opposition did not desire to pay the sum entailed upon him by a miserable makeshift, he had his choice of stepping aside and allowing some one else who might be glad to have the office to pay the fee and take it.

There is another point in this debate which the assessments placed upon the candidate for United States Senator and certain State officers who have no opposition, is characterized as unfair and unjust. In the light of the fact that those officers appointed by the Governor and elected by the Legislature, who pay nothing for maintaining the party organization, draw more salary in the aggregate than all those who are running before the people this year, with or without opposition.

According to the Record. It is made after careful reference to the records, and will not be disputed by any one who is well posted.

There is another point in this connection. The Roanoke convention last summer referred certain matters concerning the improvement of the present primary system in Virginia to the State Committee. The committee is claimed and conceded to be in the hands of the machine faction of the party by a large majority. When the question of consideration of these matters came up machine leaders of prominence said: "We haven't the time now, let's put it off." The result was that the resolutions of the State Convention were referred to a committee of ten, one member to come from each congressional district. This committee has not yet been appointed, and no one knows when it will be. It is a fact, however, that it is instructed to recommend a general primary law to

the next Legislature, which convenes on January 10, 1910.

If this committee reports nothing the Legislature may do nothing at all, though the attempt has been made on several occasions to get such a measure through.

E. C. Folkes, now a Senator from this city, tried it years ago when he was a member of the House, and he was "given the laugh" by the members of the House Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Senator Strode, of Amherst, offered such a bill at the last session. He could never get it out of the elections committee, but he says he will re-offer it and press it with all possible vigor at the coming session. The primary advocates may as well conclude, however, that if the principle of primary elections is to be preserved in the State they have got to fight for its maintenance in each recurring campaign, for, as a rule, the party leaders wish to see it discredited, and finally destroyed.

STRIKERS MAKE CLAIMS

They Expect to Completely Tie Up Philadelphia System To-Day.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 30.—The second day of the street car workers' strike here passed without any serious disturbance, and with very little change in the situation over yesterday, when two-thirds of the surface cars of the city were out of commission. Less cars were operated to-day than yesterday, but the officials of the Rapid Transit Company point out that the Sunday schedule is light.

The strikers claim that they have gained many recruits overnight, and predict that to-morrow there will be a complete tie-up. Efforts are being made to get the powerhouse workers to join the strike. The motormen and conductors of the elevated railroad, who get 2 cents an hour more than the surface car men, and have better working hours, have so far refused to join the strikers.

No effort was made to-day to operate cars on many of the smaller lines which feed the main lines. On most of the larger lines a fair schedule was maintained during the day, but this was considerably curtailed at nightfall. After nightfall traffic on many of the lines which had been in operation during the daylight hours was entirely suspended, and the strikers are not caring to risk any violence that might be attempted under the cover of darkness. Meanwhile C. O. Pratt, the national organizer, has been engaged in visiting the various sections of the city and persuading the men still working to join the strikers. He refused to the union headquarters after midnight and professed to be satisfied with the situation.

During the evening an entire platoon of nine men who were returning home in a wagon were taken into custody for calling "scab" at a passing trolley car. The police have been instructed to arrest and make charges against any one that makes a show of scolding at the working conductors and motormen. Every prisoner who is arrested is taken to the detective bureau and photographed like a common criminal.

Two of the most serious disturbances of the day, however, did not result in any arrests. At one place a telegraph pole was placed across the car track and it required the efforts of a squad of police to keep the crowd from putting it back in place. At another place a motorman became terror-stricken because of the presence of a crowd of strike sympathizers, and was unable to start his car. He volunteered and ran the car back to the barn for him.

REORGANIZATION PLAN OF SEABOARD

Details Are Published, but Authenticity Denied by Committee Member.

BALTIMORE, Md., May 30.—A plan for the reorganization of the Seaboard Air Line Railway has, according to a story printed in the Baltimore News to-day, but denied by a member of the committee, been practically agreed upon and will be promulgated by the committee about June 1. The article says some minor details remain to be determined, though the general terms have been approved by the reorganization committee.

In brief the plan provides for: No foreclosure. Present first mortgage to secure 4 per cent. bonds to pay off receivers' certificates and floating debt to be raised through sale of debenture or income bonds.

Preferred and common stock not to be assessed. Colonial trust three-year and ten-year 5 per cent. bonds to be retired at or before maturity.

Fixed charges under reorganization to be reduced about 25 per cent. Receivables to be lifted about the end of the present year.

Elimination of floating trust. The stock will be issued to stockholders and by them voted.

Elaborating the foregoing features, the paper says there will be an issue of debenture or income bonds for the purpose of raising money with which to pay off the receivers' certificates.

The present first mortgage to secure an issue of \$75,000,000 of 4 per cent. bonds, of which \$12,775,000 are outstanding, will be liquidated.

When the Seaboard Air Line Railway is reorganized, the Seaboard Company, the holding company of the railroad, will be dissolved, the stock of the railroad to be distributed to the holders of Seaboard Company shares.

It is understood the holders of the first mortgage 4 per cent. bonds will be asked to deposit their securities with the trustee of the mortgage, the Federal Trust Company of Baltimore. In order that a supplemental mortgage may be agreed to by which the 4 per cent. bonds may be redeemed at the pleasure of the company at par and interest, at any interest-paying date.

It is intimated that the plan of reorganization as agreed upon is dependent upon the acceptance of the terms by the holders of the 4 per cent. bonds, and unless this assent is given it may be necessary to foreclose. The terms, however, are regarded as liberal to all interests.

Thomas J. Hayward, of this city, a member of the subcommittee of the general committee on the reorganization of the Seaboard Air Line, tonight denied the report of the reorganization plan. "No agreement has been adopted," he said, "and not even a tentative plan has been formulated before this," he added. "We have hoped all ready to submit to the general committee, but as yet we have not been able to do so. I am in hopes that a plan may be approved very soon. Perhaps it may be approved at the next meeting of the general committee, which will be held June 5, but I cannot say positively that a plan will be submitted."

Hayward gave it as his opinion that the reorganization will be lifted from the company by next January.

MEN WHO ARE IN THE PUBLIC EYE



SIR JOHN TENNIEL, For 50 Years Cartoonist for "Punch," Now in His Ninetieth Year.



MEHMED V., Who Succeeded Abdul Hamid II. on Passed Assistant Surgeon, and Rtd San Francisco of the Plaza.



ROBERT BLUE, Retiring President of Harvard University.



CHARLES W. ELIOT, Retiring President of Harvard University.



ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM MAY, Commander of the British Navy.



GROSS ADMIRAL VON KOESTER, Active Commander of the German Navy.

News of Manchester

Manchester Bureau, Times-Dispatch, No. 1102 Hull Street.

At the solicitation of his many friends, Charles H. Sharpe, formerly Superintendent of the Water Department, has decided to enter the contest for that position again at the coming election, and will formally make application either to-day or to-morrow. Mr. Sharpe stated last night that he had given the matter due consideration and was not acting hurriedly. A petition signed by hundreds of the best citizens of the town will be presented to the Water Commission at its meeting, asking that Mr. Sharpe again be given the position. The other applicants for the position will be Charles I. Burkert, the incumbent, and George B. Jones.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners will be held to-morrow night, but whether it will go into an election at that time cannot be said. It is possible that it will postpone the matter and hold a called meeting for the purpose later.

At present matters in the Water Department are rather unsettled. Charles W. Walke, secretary, has intimated that he would not stand for the office again, and it was reported on the street yesterday that he would announce himself as a candidate for superintendent. Mr. Walke could not be seen at his home last night to either confirm or deny the report.

New Term Begins July 1.

The term of the Superintendent of the Water Department begins July 1, and the commission will have to go into an election before that time. This reason it is thought that the election will be held to-morrow night, Mr. Burkert is now filling the unexpired term of Mr. Sharpe, who was removed from office last year, following his indictment on thirteen counts, charging misappropriation of the city funds. Mr. Sharpe's indictment, the trial and subsequent events are still fresh in the minds of the Manchester people, and of whom plain that he was unjustly dealt with, and anxious to have him returned to the office. Mr. Sharpe's trial consumed the best part of five days. The Water Department's books for years back were brought out, and an expert accountant thoroughly went over them. It resulted in a complete vindication of the former superintendent, the jury returning with a verdict of not guilty, after having remained closeted only twelve minutes. It was following this that the petition mentioned was circulated and signed by the people, the idea being to use it at the coming election.

Death of Mrs. Viles.

Mrs. Sarah A. Viles, formerly of this city, but more recently of New York, died at 1007 East Marshall Street, Richmond, yesterday morning after an illness of several weeks. Mrs. Viles was a sister of Mrs. E. M. Whitehead, of this city, who survives her. She is also survived by a son, who lives in New York. Mrs. Viles had been in ill health for some time and her death was not unexpected. For the past six weeks she had been living in Richmond. She was well known and popular in this city.

Death of W. E. Antonio, Jr.

W. E. Antonio, Jr., only son of Louis and Mosele Antonio, died at the residence of his parents in this city Saturday night at 9:45 o'clock. The funeral will take place from the home, 1573 Deatur Street, this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Funeral of Mr. Ciesler.

The funeral of T. Lynwood Ciesler, who died at his home in Woodland Heights, Friday, took place yesterday afternoon at Maury Cemetery. Services were conducted by Rev. T. J. Fox. The following acted as pallbearers: Honorary—W. P. Rice, John E. Trevillian, George W. Ray, R. A. Bowen, George E. Hagleton, John Dunn and Walter Lawrence. Active—E. E. Harley and James Robinson. The others being members of the orders to which Mr. Ciesler belonged.

Personals and Briefs.

Squire H. A. Jordan continues very ill at his home, at Ninth and Hull Streets.

Miss Nannie Lithgow, who has been quite sick for several days, has improved.

Mrs. William F. Rex, who has been visiting friends in Norfolk, has returned to her home in this city.

Miss Ruth Wells, who has been sick for some time, is able to be about again.

Mrs. B. M. Robertson left yesterday for Lunenburg county, where she will be the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Deirdre Bridgford.

David L. Weisiger, of Atlanta, is in the city for a few days on a business trip.

Miss Louise Owens has returned from Norfolk, where she has been visiting her aunt.

Miss Helen Batte, of Prince George county, who has been the guest of her aunt, Mrs. George E. Cary, left Saturday for Washington, where she will witness the graduation of Miss McDonald from the convent of the Holy Cross. She was accompanied by Mrs. Deirdre and Mrs. Binford, of Richmond.

Miss Emily Fitzgerald will leave Wednesday for Berkeley and Norfolk, where she will pay an extended visit to friends.

Mrs. and Mrs. Marian Shepard and children left Saturday for Chesterfield county, where they will visit Mr. Shepard's parents.

Mrs. and Mrs. K. Stanley Robertson left yesterday for Annapolis, Md., to attend the graduation of their son.

Master Gordon Robertson is visiting his cousin, Mr. Strong, in Chesterfield county.

The funeral of Mrs. Emma Oliver Redford took place yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock from Asbury Methodist Church. Interment was made in Ivy Cemetery.

The Cemetery Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting in the Council chamber to-night at 8 o'clock.

The Alms House and Poor Committee will meet to-morrow afternoon at 6:30 o'clock and will go on a tour of inspection to the poor house.

The regular monthly meeting of the Business Men's Association will be held at Fraternal Hall Friday night.

The banks, schools and city offices will be closed to-day.

AMERICAN TO LOSE STUDIOS

Ezekiel Has Occupied Baths of Diocletian to Home for Thirty Years.

ROME, May 30.—All the world knows that the Baths of Diocletian are to be isolated, and all those who are renting parts of them for various purposes will be put out, but very few know that the American sculptor, the Richmond sculptor, Mr. Ezekiel, has occupied these studios for upward of thirty years, and it is safe to say that half the Americans who come to Rome, indeed all nationalities, think they have not done Rome until they have seen this unique spot.

Mr. Ezekiel maintains, and after seeing them one must agree with him, that the atmosphere inspires his work. Here came to light his magnificent "Napoleon," of which Mrs. Douglas Robinson is having a reproduction of the head. Here was conceived his statue of Christ, now adorning the new Charity Bazaar in Paris; his monument to Mrs. Fisk for Cornell University; and Andrew Jackson Monument, and so on.

The only hope for Mr. Ezekiel to keep his studios, and for him to persuade the authorities that a sculptor's studio is a room of the kind Diocletian's is in the harmony with the spirit of the ruins, and that he adds to the interest of the ruins, which he occupies is not needed by the great museum which they are going to establish there besides the one already existing.

DUMMY FIGURES OF SULTAN FOUND

They Were Used to Deceive Watchers as to His Real Location.

DEATH TRAPS IN PALACE

Eunuch Nagid Pressed Into Service to Ferret Out Many Mysteries.

PARIS, May 30.—The correspondent of the Temps at Constantinople describes the life of the fallen Sultan Abdul Hamid in his present palace. This journalist has evidently tried to approach the villa, which is jealously guarded by troops. Most of those through whom the journalist sought access to the ex-Sultan answered: "Abdul Hamid must be forgotten. It is of no importance now to know what he does or what he thinks."

Abdul Hamid, it is said, begins to get accustomed to his new life. The first day he slept in his residence he carefully inspected all the doors and windows before going to bed, and the following day he was nervous and somewhat irritated. He used to smoke a cigar and a cigarette, but did not relish the food which was prepared for him. He did not even go out on the balcony, but would walk about in the rooms of the villa, peering from time to time out of some window, so as to acquaint himself with the surroundings.

Interested in Many Things.

He seems interested in the simple things which surround him, sometimes going for a walk in the garden and asking the names of the flowers. Of the women of the harem he has accompanied the master, two girls, aged fourteen and fifteen, respectively, are now said to be installed as his favorites.

It is said that Abdul Hamid used to have a story of a master, without doubt with robbers, assassins, adventurers and detectives translated, and that he used to take from them any ideas that would serve to make him fierce or protect him against attempts at robbery, assassination, confinement of these stories about the deposed Sultan have been found in the search through Yildiz Kiosk.

Curious Treasures Discovered.

The eunuch Nagid, from whom information is being exacted concerning the Sultan's secrets, is taken through the apartments of the palace with his hands fastened and soldiers all around him, but most precautions, because it is well known that there are all kinds of traps and ambushes which the eunuch alone knows, and into which he can let those accompanying him fall. In that part of the palace where the Sultan resided there are rooms with doors hidden in the walls, hidden rooms, movable planks in the floors and other kinds of diabolical inventions.

OFF FOR GETTYSBURG

President Taft Will Deliver Memorial Day Address.

PITTSBURG, Pa., May 30.—After spending two days in Pittsburgh, one at play and one at rest, President Taft left here to-night for Gettysburg, where he will deliver the Memorial Day address, and where his daughter, Miss Helen H. Taft, will unveil the towering granite monument erected by Congress to the memory of the regular troops engaged in the battle of Gettysburg.

"I never come to Pittsburgh," the President said to-night, "without marveling at the tremendous energy of the place, its wonderful working in steel and iron, and the great possibilities that the future seems to hold."

He attended church this morning, received a number of visitors during the afternoon, and had an informal dinner with relatives and a few invited friends. He greatly enjoyed his impromptu reception on the Laughlin lawn, and was apparently in good health, and was looking along one of the streets when she suddenly became dizzy and fell. Two men ran to her assistance and lifted her. Her feet, and as she turned to thank them, shaking one by the hand, she fell. Her death was attributed as the cause of her sudden death.

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DEATHS

ANTONE.—Died at 9:45 P. M., May 29, at his home, 1107 East Marshall Street, Richmond, Va. He was the only son of Louis and Mosele Antonio.

FRIDRICHSEN, Va., May 30.—Mrs. Sarah Jennings, of King George county, died suddenly at her home after a brief illness, aged twenty-seven years. She is survived by her husband.

Real Estate for Rent.

BED AND DINING-ROOM SUIT FOR sale cheap to quick buyer. Apply 314 West Clay Street.

Established 1865.

Woodward & Son, LUMBER, Sash, Blinds, Doors. Large Stock. Low Prices. RICHMOND, VA.

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"Porosknit" Summer Underwear FOR MEN FOR BOYS

Fit, wear and real summer comfort—Freedom in action. It's clean, cool, sanitary. Ask your dealer for it.

POST-OFFICE RUN AS SAVINGS BANK

Postmaster Had Fine Scheme to Mult Foreigners of Their Earnings.

HOLLIDAYSBURG, Pa., May 30.—The serious illness and impending death of Samuel Sparr, postmaster at Williamsburg, has revealed a situation without a parallel in the history of the Post-Office Department. For the last five years many Hungarians and Italians employed in the quarries have been depositing their savings with the postmaster, believing that they were depositing with the government.

Some Months Ago the Present Postmaster was Taken Seriously Ill and Has Not Been Able to Attend to Business.

His increasing weakness, the clamors of the depositors for their money and his inability to repay it, led to an assignment by Mr. Sparr. It is thought his entire indebtedness to the foreigners will approach \$25,000.

In 1904, about the time the unauthorised post-office bank was organized in the Williamsburg post-office, Levi Sparr was postmaster and Samuel Sparr assistant.

Levi was absent from home a great deal and Samuel attended to the business. The first receipts given the foreigners bore the signature of "Levi Sparr, postmaster," with the letter "S" below the signature. They also bore the stamp of the money-order department, "M. O. B." with the date of issue.

Later on, passbooks were issued to the depositors. They were kept like a regular bankbook, containing the credits on one page and the debts on the other. They all bear the "M. O. B." stamp and the signature of Samuel Sparr, postmaster. The foreigners say they believed they were lending their money to the government. They have a postal savings system in Italy and in Hungary.

The Sparr "savings bank" was very popular, and during good times the postmaster is believed to have had as much as \$45,000 on hand.

OVERSIGHT WINS.

PARIS, May 30.—William K. Vanderbilt's Oversight won the Paris (Produce Stakes), at Longchamps to-day. The distance was ten and one-half furlongs.

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